

# The Times

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SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1902.

## VIRGINIA LANDS.

For the past several years we have been telling our readers that Virginia farm lands are the greatest bargains at the price in this country. We are more and more convinced that that estimate is correct. Some farm lands are high and, perhaps, are selling for as much as they are worth. There are other lands which are not available, and, though the prices seem ridiculously cheap, we would not advise the purchase of them. But there are hundreds and thousands of acres of available land in Virginia that are selling, in our opinion, at less than half their true value, and we believe that such lands bought at ruling prices would yield rich profits to those who invest in them.

We had an interesting talk the other day with a citizen of one of the far Western States, who formerly lived in Virginia. He is familiar with the situation in the West and he understands the situation in Virginia, and he fully agrees with The Times that lands in this section of Virginia are very cheap. So much impressed is he with the fact that he has made large purchases of farm lands in the Eastern part of the State and he expects to realize handsomely on the investment. There are several other land agents from that section of the country who are now interesting themselves in Virginia farm lands. We learn through these gentlemen that large numbers of men who years ago settled in Missouri, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota and other States in the Northwest have sold out their lands at a good profit and are now looking for a more desirable location in a warmer climate.

It is the purpose of the land agents to whom we have referred to bring some of these Northwesters into Virginia and settle them here. They have already brought down quite a number of families and they believe that they will bring down many more. The chief difficulties in the way of selling Virginia lands to these men is the low price. The Westerners seem to think, and naturally so, that lands which are offered at from five to ten dollars an acre cannot be worth very much.

But they do not understand conditions in Virginia. We have too much land for the number of inhabitants, and labor is scarce. We need practical farmers from other sections, who will come and take up the lands and till them with their own hands. We ought to exert ourselves as a people to induce such farmers to come in and the State ought to exert itself in that direction. We ought to have our land agents in the Northwest; we ought to circulate our literature there; we ought to have our land agents in Virginia to receive these would-be settlers, and when they come to direct them where to go. A little money judiciously expended in this direction would be about the best investment that the State could make.

Finally, we believe that the St. Louis Exposition will afford the State of Virginia the best possible opportunity and occasion to advertise her agricultural lands, her mineral lands and her advantages and resources of every description. If we will but take advantage of this occasion to make the right sort of an exhibit and to advertise our State in the right way the practical results will soon be forthcoming.

## DON'T BLAME BRYAN.

The Kansas City Star, in referring to Mr. Bryan's denunciation of Grover Cleveland, asks why Mr. Bryan should charge any member of the party with treachery or ingratitude, and replies:

Such aspersions come with a bad grace from a man who was largely responsible for committing his party to the absurd and futile policy of free silver; who was solely responsible for the retention of this hopeless issue in the platform in 1900; who forced himself, as well as his doctrine, on his party in that year, when every leader and nearly all of the rank and file knew that defeat, with such a handicap, was certain.

In all fairness to Mr. Bryan, we do not see why he should reproach himself for the part which he took in this movement. He believed in free silver and he urged his party to adopt a free silver platform in 1896. But he did not make his party adopt it. An overwhelming majority at the Chicago Convention heartily favored free silver and were casting about for a leader. When Mr. Bryan made his famous speech the delegates said that "the man and the occasion had met" and they lost no time in putting Bryan in the lead. Bryan was, indeed, the "logical nominee" of that convention. Believing with all his heart in free silver, he made an earnest and able fight for it, and we doubt if any man in the country could have made a better fight for the "New Democracy" than Bryan made.

Again in 1900 a majority of the delegates went to the National Democratic Convention, determined and instructed to renominate Bryan. Bryan was urged to forswear himself on the free silver question, but he declined to do so. He believed in free silver in 1896, he believed in free silver in 1900, and he served notice on the convention that he would not accept the nomination unless he could stand once more on a free silver platform. It was then up to the convention to decide between the man and the issue. Delegates were not compelled to take Bryan. There were other available men. Bryan did not force himself upon the convention, and it is the opinion of some who are on the inside that he did not desire the nomination, as he felt that he would be leading a forlorn hope. But the convention seemed to be afraid to put him aside and he was permitted to dictate

the platform upon which he would run.

In all fairness, we do not blame Mr. Bryan for the course which he pursued. He took a consistent stand. It was his right to name the terms upon which he would receive his second nomination. He did name the terms and the convention accepted them. The responsibility was on the convention, rather than on the nominee.

## WHAT A SUPERINTENDENT CAN DO.

Some one has said that the superintendent is the school system and the teacher is the school. That the statement has some truth in it is shown by the record made by County Superintendent S. P. Venable, of Buncombe county, North Carolina. When he took the office, in March, 1899, the school term ranged from two and a half to five months, the attendance was very poor, the people indifferent and the whole system was run in a slipshod manner. Buncombe county, of which Asheville is the county seat, is in the mountains, where the school problem is a very difficult one. Superintendent Venable is a native of North Carolina, but he was educated at Hampden-Sidney and the University of Virginia.

As soon as he had made a thorough study of his office and of the school law he concluded that the best way to ascertain the cause of the slim attendance was to visit the people in their homes. Although over seventy years old and crippled by a Federal bullet, he took his walking stick and tramped through the country for miles, visiting the schools and going into the homes of the people.

He returned from his trip with his heart and brain on fire. He had found that many of the parents would not send their little children to school in winter because the weather was too severe. Others could not clothe all their children sufficiently and so kept the little ones at home in order that the larger ones might attend. Consequently, many of the children were nine or ten years old before they were started to school. Buncombe county is a farming community and many of the children begin steady work on the farm by the time they are 13 or 15 years old; so their schooling has amounted to almost nothing.

"If the people can't meet the conditions of the schools, then the schools must meet the conditions of the people," said Superintendent Venable. "The schools must be arranged so as to get the children there, not the children arranged for the schools and expected to go there when they cannot." Calling his board together, he converted them to his scheme, which was to inaugurate a duplicate system of schools—that is, to have a school in the summer and fall for the little children and as soon as this closed to open school for the larger ones. He contended that the attendance of the small children would be better; that the teachers could teach them more rapidly than under the old system, as there would be fewer classes; that the children would start to school earlier in life and therefore stay in school longer; and that better teachers could be secured, because a teacher could teach the small children four or five months and then take the large children in hand, thus having steady employment. He claimed, moreover, that while the actual expenditure of money would be a little more, the net result would be a large saving.

Bitter opposition arose at once, not only from parents, but from teachers. The former opposed because it was something new; the latter for the same reason, and again because they feared the graded system, which they foresaw, would arise from this new movement.

But the superintendent held his ground and despite every form of opposition and annoyance persuaded a few schools to try the plan. The results were even better than he had predicted. The enrollment of the small children doubled and the attendance was first rate. Some of the teachers reported last summer that every child under ten years of age in their districts was at school, and the average was over 90 per cent. Not having so many classes to hear, the teachers were able to give individual attention to these children and the progress made was surprising alike to parents and pupils.

It is said that every prediction made by the superintendent is coming true. The plan is spreading over the country, the schools are gradually being consolidated and the grading of these schools started, the school term has gone to over seven months, better teachers are applying, the children are getting interested and the patrons are waking up. Superintendent Venable, in a recent letter, says: "I have kept up my long terms that were ridiculed as impossible, raised the money to pay for them and will build equivalent to eighteen school-houses this year—three-room houses, which will have in one room the first and second grades, in another room the third, fourth and fifth grades, and in the third room the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The houses are so built that two outer walls will add a fourth room, and as the grades go up we will make different division of grades. This in sight in three years! and I have the money to pay for them, too. They are really handsome houses and will be built with regard to every modern requirement for health."

"How did he get the money?" will be asked. He saw to it that every cent of money paid for the schools went into the schools! He found, so we are informed, that thousands of dollars had been diverted from the school fund. He demanded a return of this money and informed his board that he preferred their support, but if they wouldn't give it he would proceed to get the money anyway. The board supported him, but he had to carry the case to the State Supreme Court before he won it. Buncombe now gets all the school money that belongs to her. Moreover, he took a stand for merit in the selection of teachers.

Help has been secured outside the school fund. Patrons have given assistance and in some instances land has been given for the erection of schools. Any live superintendent can always find patrons to help if they once see that he

is genuinely in earnest about educating the children. It is the dead superintendent who claims that others are too dead to be awakened.

It is said that there is still opposition to Superintendent Venable's course, and at times he has been bitterly assailed. But he has a lot of Scotch-Irish in him and most people know what that means. He states that his plan will go a long way towards solving the rural school problem in the mountainous and hill sections of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia, and the increase and regular attendance of the smaller children in Buncombe county seem to be an unanswerable argument in behalf of his position.

We need many superintendents in Virginia just like Mr. Venable.

## A FIGHT FOR PROTECTION.

The testimony of Mr. J. P. Morgan before the United States examiner in the Northern Securities investigation was highly entertaining and interesting. Mr. Morgan made it very plain that this was a fight for position, and that the owners of the Northern Pacific were compelled to do something to protect their interests. "The prime motive of the transaction," says the New York Sun, "instead of being the ending of competition between the two lines involved—the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern—was defense against a danger which had been proven with terrible emphasis during the panic of last May. The owners of the Northern Pacific road awoke one morning to find themselves reported the property of a still bigger enemy, the Union Pacific; and having barely escaped from capture they resolved to build a house so large, that is, representing a capital so great, as to be safe from attack. And so the Northern Securities Company, a holding company, or trust company, was constructed, in which the Great Northern and Northern Pacific might be secure. Both roads have entered it willingly and gladly, and there they await for the courts to decide whether the Attorney-General may pull their house down and drive them out. Needless to say, the entire business organization of the country waits on no coming event with greater interest."

This deal seems to have been the only way out of the difficulty. The organization of the United States Steel Corporation was also a necessity of conditions. A number of great steel and iron concerns were about to go to war, and the fight would have been so disastrous that they were constrained to make terms and be friends, instead of enemies.

Several days ago a woman in Richmond, being in a hurry, attempted to cross the street ahead of a wagon which was being driven by a negro. The driver deliberately applied the lash to his team and tried to run the woman down. After the woman had escaped she turned and looked at the negro and he scowled at her in a way that made her flesh creep.

On Thursday afternoon a horse dashed down Fifth Street dragging a buggy in which were seated a woman and child. Wesley Armstrong, a negro man, saw the danger, and at the risk of his own life stopped the frightened horse and saved the woman and child from harm.

It is not always fair to judge negroes as a race. There are mean negroes and good negroes, as there are mean white folks and good white folks.

The General Assembly has determined to have a committee of five to inquire into the advisability of establishing another Normal School in Virginia and report at the next session. That is well. We have little doubt that the committee, after having made an examination, will report favorably, and we hope that the report will be formally acted upon by the next General Assembly.

The Governor did right to veto the bill providing that a person named therein might practice pharmacy without standing the required examination before the State Board of Pharmacy. That sort of class legislation should not be tolerated. A competent pharmacist can stand the regular examination, and if a man cannot stand it, he ought not to be permitted to fill prescriptions.

The Richmond Times says: "It cannot be too often asserted that the men make the town." How about the women?—Farmville Herald.

The women? Why they make the men.

We print on the financial page to-day an interesting article from Messrs. C. W. Branch & Company on the outlook for cotton. The figures have been carefully compiled and should be filed away for reference.

## CURRENT TOPICS.


### Schools and Churches.

A lesson should be learned from the preachers. In all the Southern States the church property is from five to ten times more valuable than the public school property. In many towns with four or five comfortable church houses built of brick or stone, or neatly painted, of built of wood, with stained-glass windows and furnished with comfortable pews, the one public school is an unsightly old building—frequently a discarded church-house—unpainted, unplastered, roof out of repair, window-panes broken, seated with hard benches without backs, heated by a box stove in the middle of the room. In the country one frequently sees a neat comfortable church, built at an expense of \$1,000 or more, and, standing by it, a dilapidated old school-house, not worth \$100. The good churches are all right; the school-houses should be kept up with them. The preachers are largely responsible for the keeping of the church houses; the teachers for the care of the school houses.—Atlantic Educational Journal.

### Age of the Brass Band.

"As antiquities go nowadays, the brass band is a very ancient institution. That is to say, its inventor died in 1891 at the age of eighty. There were horns before Adolphus Sax, to be sure, but not such horns as we have now, for they were not played every time in every key. They could not even play a scale in any key. The very first band entirely of brass was organized in 1835, and I doubt if any of the instruments then used could be played upon by modern musicians without special practice. It is only 110 years back to 1891 when a full regimental band in the British army consisted of two oboes, two clarinets, two horns and two bassoons. It must have sounded even funnier than Tennyson's famous

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combination of 'flute, violin and bassoon.' "How long a way we have come since 1783 may be learned from this ensemble of a first-class modern band, which I give on the coming fight, as the Union Pacific, bandmaster of the Twenty-third Regiment, N. Y. N. G., probably the best regimental bandmaster in the United States. Note that the modern band of forty-two pieces has had many choirs and bassoons as the ancient band of eight pieces seven times as many clarinets and nine times as many horns, to say nothing of the saxophones, which are part clarinet and part horn."—Harvey Sutherland, in *Ainslee's*.

### Advice to Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Bryan can scarcely complain of the treatment he has received at the hands of the Democratic party—it went with him to the last ditch—and it appears to us that he might well refrain from getting mixed up with the presidential arrangements for 1904. He must recognize the fact that he cannot help it to succeed in the coming fight, as the issue for which he stood, and with which his name is inseparably associated, is passed, and any conspicuous part he may now take in the affairs of the party must necessarily result in injuring the chances of its success in the next fight. So it seems to us that he owes it to the Democrats who so loyally supported him in 1896 and in 1900 not to be a stumbling block to them at this time.—Norfolk Public Ledger.

### PERSONAL AND CRITICAL.

Captain S. H. Barton, C. S. A., who is said to have fired the last hostile shot in the Civil War in the plains of Brazos, Santiago, Texas, May 13, 1865, is now living quietly in Del Rio in that State. It is said among his neighbors is one Noy, a comrade on that occasion, who claims to be a descendant of Napoleon's marshal of the same name, who fired the last shot in Napoleon's retreat from Russia. Captain Barton says that a young man who fell by his side was undoubtedly the last man killed in the rebellion.

"I'd like to know," exclaimed the enraged client, "why I ought to feel jubilant over the outcome of the case?"

"Didn't we obtain a verdict for \$12,000?" the lawyer asked.

"Yes; but you got about all of it. What good does it do me?"

"My dear sir, the other fellow feels just as bad as if every penny of it were going into your pocket."—*Tit-Bits*.

Andrew Carnegie has received a request from the Board of Regents of the Presbyterian College at La Crosse, Wisconsin, for \$500,000 for a new college building. The petition was signed by the officials of the Board of Trade of La Crosse and prominent business and professional men of the city.

Wisdom—Honestly, now, did you learn anything vital while you were in college?

Graduate—Um-m, well, I learned how to state my ignorance in scientific terms.—*Life*.

The Earl of Minto, the Viceroy of Canada, has received a unique distinction. He has been given the title of honorary grand chief of the Huron Indians, and has been acclaimed in that position with great enthusiasm.

Had Cecil Rhodes died ten years earlier or ten years later, some portions of the world's history might have been written differently.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

"The millenium will not be very far off," remarked the observer of events and things, "when it is as easy for a man to find his collar-button as it is for him to find fault."—*Yonkers Statesman*.

It's a poor rule that doesn't work at least four or five ways.—*Life*.

It is probable that there are very few British jingoes left except those who feel themselves bound by their past.—*Puck*.

He who has less than he wants is poor, but he who wants less than he has is poorer.—*Life*.

## GOOD HOME FOR LITTLE GIRL.

Thelma Taken from Foster Mother and Given to the Latter's Parents.

After hearing all the facts in the case, the four-year-old child, Thelma, Morgan, who has been in the custody of her foster-mother, Aneta Morgan, in a house at No. 141 Exchange Alley, was yesterday turned over to the father and mother of the woman by Justice Crutchfield in the Police Court. This action was taken with the full consent of the city of Richmond, J. Maybee, of the Children's Home Society, who stated in court that he merely desired to save the little girl, a pretty child, from the evil ways of its adopted mother.

According to the story told in the Police

Court yesterday, the child is fatherless and motherless. It was adopted by Aneta Morgan soon after she was married. Later she and her husband separated, and the visitations of living forced her into that life whence the child had come. It was the one thing in the world she loved. She has been at the place in Exchange Alley for a couple of months, and a large part of that time the child has been with her parents at No. 515 South Cherry Street.

When the case was heard yesterday the father and mother of the young woman, to whom the little girl had grown very dear, asked for the custody of the child, pledging themselves to keep it away from their daughter. This was agreeable to Mr. Maybee, of the Children's Home Society, and was then ordered by Justice Crutchfield.

## AMUSEMENTS.

May Irwin, who is to be seen here next Tuesday in "The Widow Jones," is not only a clever comedienne, but is also a capital business woman. Her starring tours have been most signally successful and she has invested her earnings in real estate transactions to such good advantage that it may be safely said that she is now one of the richest women on the stage. She has not, however, let these business dealings interfere with her stage career, and has always kept her performances and company strictly up-to-the-times.

"A Trip to Chinatown" will be the offering at the Bijou at matinee and night performances to-day, concluding the stay of the Elina Musical Comedy Company. The favorites have eclipsed their best efforts in the presentation of this Hoyt play. The Hoffman song hit, "Ching a Ling a Loo," as sung by Mary Marble and Little Chip, assisted by the chorus of musical maidens, is the best thing on the musical programme, although the specialty numbers of Chip and Otis Harlan are encore makers.

Easter week's offering at the Bijou will commence with a matinee Monday, and Ten Tchi, the famous Japanese wizard, will make his first appearance here, performing the same feats that caused all the leading critics in the country to exclaim that he was the most wonderful of the modern wonder-workers. The act is said to be one that creates a sensation, and will no doubt prove a great drawing card at the Bijou. Richard Jose, possibly the most talked of tenor outside of grand opera, is one of the principals, and will be heard for the first time in Richmond outside of the advance price scale. Falk and Semon and Felix and Barry, a comedy sketch duo, are joint stars of the bill.

## CAPITOL SQUARE CONCERT.

Professor Iardella Announces Programme of Concert on Monday.

The programme for the complimentary concert to be given by Professor Felix Iardella on Easter Monday to the children of Richmond in the Capitol Square has been arranged, and is as follows:

1. March, "American Honor."
2. Overture, "Il Campione."
3. (a) Song, "Alice, Where Art Thou?" (b) Cake Walk, "A Coon Band Contest."
4. Medley Overture, "Bouquet of Popular Songs."
5. "Sanctus" from "Messa Solenne."
6. Waltz, "Dancing Waves" (by request).
7. Characteristic, "Campin' on the Ole Sawmill."
8. "Star Spangled Banner" and "Dixie."

The concert will commence about noon and last until 1:30 o'clock. This will be one of the most interesting events during the Easter holiday, and is an especial treat for the children.

After the ceremony refreshments were served.

Who is He?

James Wilson, an unknown man, was shot and killed while burglarizing a house in Jersey City several nights ago. The police of that city are endeavoring to have him identified. He was about twenty-six years old, 5 feet 8½ inches tall, weighed 170 pounds, medium complexion. Any information will be received by Major Howard.

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SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Attractive invitations have been issued by the Faithful Circle of the King's Daughters, which read:

Madame Fashion cordially invites you to attend her spring opening of neckwear which she will exhibit under the auspices of Faithful Circle of the King's Daughters at No. 103 South Third Street, from 4 to 6 P. M., Wednesday, April 24. Silver tea, ping pong 8 to 10.

At night the admission will include ice cream, cake and gossip. Ping pong which is creating quite a stir in the fashionable world, will be played, and many of its devotees are expected to be present, and altogether it bids fair to rival in popularity any of the mid-week Easter festivities.

"Old King Cole," the fourteen-burlesque given by the Mask and Wig Club of Philadelphia University, promises to be a great success. When a performance was given before an audience of newspaper men and theatrical folk Thursday in Philadelphia, the laughter and applause was deafening, and was judged to be the best production the company has ever offered.

Miss Maria Blair will be in charge of a party who will sail on the "Allen," one of the North German Lloyd steamers, April 19th direct to Naples. Those who will make up this charming European party are Miss Madge Freedley, Mrs. John Burwell, Miss Mattie Purcell, Misses Irene and Corinne Rosenbaum, and Mrs. Cole of Indiana. After visiting in Naples they will go direct to Sicily, and then on through Italy. While in Rome they will be joined by Miss Aline Stokes, and then go on to the coronation in London. They will be absent four months.

Miss Katherine Michaux, Miss Maria Mosley and Miss Ellie Werth are among the Richmond girls who will wait on Miss Harrison, of Petersburg, when she is united on Wednesday next to Mr. John Archer Coke, of this city. Mr. Coke will have as his best man Mr. John Lea, and the Richmond vashers will be Messrs. Julian Hill, William G. Kean and Mr. William Bridges. A brilliant reception will be held immediately after the ceremony, which takes place at the Grace Episcopal Church at 3:30 o'clock. Among those who will be at the reception, which will be given at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harrison, in Petersburg, are: Captain and Mrs. John Coke, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Spencer, and Mr. and Mrs. George West, of this city; Mrs. Della Phannagan of New York; Mrs. Edward Whyte, of Philadelphia; Mrs. A. A. Chapman, of Logansville, and Mr. Vert Chapman, of Pennsylvania.

The bazaar held yesterday at the Second Baptist Church was a success in every way, and those who attended were high in praise of the decorations and pretty Easter gifts shown. Among those who made up a charming receiving party were Mrs. W. R. Smith, Mrs. J. Taylor Glyson, Mrs. Frank Crump, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. J. B. Montgomery, Miss Bettie Ellyson, Miss Sye Roberts, Mrs. A. L. Stratford, Mrs. William Sadler, Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. T. B. Johnson and others. The candy table and refreshment were served by a bevy of young girls in dainty costumes, among whom were Misses Brooks Flippen, Belle Willingham, Lucy Smith, Louise Steel, Vera Palmer, Leigh Pileher, Elsie Young, Catherine Sherwood, Evie Penick, and others.

Ping pong has found favor even in the eyes of the Deep Run Hunt Club, and this organization is the first that has taken it up. It has found favor in Richmond society for some time, and has been played at private residences quite often, but this club, which is governed by the sterner sex, is the first to really take it up, and they have placed a fine ping pong set upon the large table in the dining-room. In the afternoon some very animated games are being played preliminary to a dish of "Uncle Moses' famous brew of tea."

At the medal contest of the Richmond School of Expression Tuesday night, at the X. M. C., Miss Sarah De P. Boice, who recited "Hagar," was awarded the gold medal, which was presented in a few happy words by Dr. Hawthorne. All those who took part showed great training, and judges found it hard to decide between the contestants. Certainly Mr. Thurston is to be congratulated upon the success of her class.

The Richmond College German Club has issued invitations for its Easter german, which will be danced at the Masonic Temple Thursday, April 24. Those who attended the Christmas german are looking forward to this as among the most pleasant of next week's festivities.

Thursday, April 24, will be the annual Donation Day at the Retreat for the Sick, No. 219 North Twelfth Street. The house will be open throughout the day to receive donations, and for the inspection of visitors. A reception committee will welcome all who come. It is hoped that this noble work will be generously helped on that day.

Mrs. Whitehead, of Norfolk, the wife of Representative Whitehead, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John D. Murrell, No. 16½ South First Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuelson, who have been visiting in Culpeper, will leave for their home in Kentucky Monday. Mrs. Samuelson was before her marriage Miss Louise Grigg, of this city.

Mrs. Robert Clark, who has been visiting relatives in this city, will return to-day to her home in Lynchburg, and will be accompanied by Miss Willene Scott.

Mrs. L. P. Ecker, formerly of this city but now of Columbus, Ohio, is on a visit to Mrs. W. J. Blunt, No. 303 East Main Street.

The Easter german of Miss Virginia Gibbons's dancing class will be danced Tuesday night at the Northside Hall.

Miss Rosalie Shaffer's dancing class will

vehicles require no better recommendation than hard service. Hard service, honest workmanship and honest prices have sold more Carriages for us than all the printed praise we could bestow upon them. You can easily satisfy yourself that this is so, and it will afford us pleasure to show you the most complete line of Carriages and Harness in the South at very moderate prices.

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The Richmond College German Club has issued invitations for its Easter german, which will be danced at the Masonic Temple Thursday, April 24. Those who attended the Christmas german are looking forward to this as among the most pleasant of next week's festivities.

Thursday, April 24, will be the annual Donation Day at the Retreat for the Sick, No. 219 North Twelfth Street. The house will be open throughout the day to receive donations, and for the inspection of visitors. A reception committee will welcome all who come. It is hoped that this noble work will be generously helped on that day.

Mrs. Whitehead, of Norfolk, the wife of Representative Whitehead, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John D. Murrell, No. 16½ South First Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuelson, who have been visiting in Culpeper, will leave for their home in Kentucky Monday. Mrs. Samuelson was before her marriage Miss Louise Grigg, of this city.

Mrs. Robert Clark, who has been visiting relatives in this city, will return to-day to her home in Lynchburg, and will be accompanied by Miss Willene Scott.

Mrs. L. P. Ecker, formerly of this city but now of Columbus, Ohio, is on a visit to Mrs. W. J. Blunt, No. 303 East Main Street.

The Easter german of Miss Virginia Gibbons's dancing class will be danced Tuesday night at the North